

# THE SOUNDER

*The Newsletter of the Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society*

*SUMMER 1999*

## *June Meeting Keynote Address*

## Living Coelacanths of the 20th Century: 60 Years and 6000 Miles Separating Two Major Discoveries

The Southern New England Chapter is pleased to bring Susan Jewett, Collection Manager for the Division of Fishes at the Smithsonian Institution to our June meeting. Susan will speak on her visit to Indonesia to help document the recent discovery of the coelacanth taken in waters off the island of Manado Tua last year.

This coelacanth, believed to be of a new species, was taken 6,000 miles from Madagascar where the fish

thought to be extinct was first discovered over sixty years ago. "The discovery of a living coelacanth is akin to finding a living dinosaur walking the Earth today" says Jewett.

Please join us for an interesting and informative presentation on this extraordinary discovery, and the role this primitive fish plays in fisheries science.



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## SNEC SUMMER MEETING- PLAN NOW TO BE THERE!

The Southern New England Chapter of the AFS Summer Meeting will be held on Wednesday June 16 at the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Hadley, MA. Located at the intersection of Rtes. 9 and 116, and in close proximity to both the MassPike and Rte. 91, Hadley is quite accessible from all directions. Parking will be available in the back parking lot. A map, agenda and registration is included inside.

In addition to a wide variety of papers being presented, the SNEC Business Meeting will be held as well.

For information on registration or the program, please contact Russell Brown (SNEC Secretary Treasurer) or Lesa Meng (SNEC Program Development Chair).

**PLEASE NOTE that to ensure a lunch, pre-registration is mandatory and must be received by JUNE 8, 1999. The registration fee**



**It's Official– SNEC is NED Outstanding Chapter Once Again**

April 2, 1999

John Kocik, President, Southern New England Chapter, AFS  
NOAA - NEFSC  
166 Water St.  
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1097

Dear John,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you that the Southern New England Chapter has again been selected as the Northeastern Division's Outstanding Chapter. The selection was made based on the Chapter's outstanding efforts to encourage and reward students, to disseminate research and chapter information, as well as over-all excellence. I look forward to personally presenting the award to your designee, Brian Murphy, at the Northeastern Division business meeting, being held in conjunction with the annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in Manchester, NH.

Congratulations!

Sincerely,  
Linda E. Bireley, President Northeastern Division, AFS  
Northeast Utilities  
PO Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

C (via email):      Brian Murphy, SNEC President Elect  
                         Barbara Knuth, NED President Elect  
                         Doug Stang, NED First Vice President  
                         Ron Essig, NED Secretary Treasurer  
                         Donna Parrish, NED Immediate Past President  
                         Lia Daniels, Chair, Best Chapter Award Committee

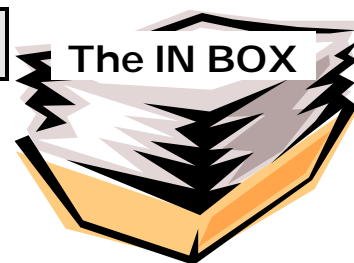
**Material For *Fisheries* Sought**

FROM: Kristin Merriman-Clarke

As editor of *Fisheries*, I look forward to covering your AFS unit activities in 1999, and I encourage you to contribute news of your unit's committees, awards, events, position statements, continuing education classes, and other projects. A big thank-you goes to those units that have sent me materials in the past year—I hope such articles in *Fisheries* have helped attract new members, raise funds, find volunteers, and recognize outstanding members.

I am also looking for Sections interested in working with me to create special theme issues of *Fisheries*. In addition, features, essays, and Happenings (individual member news) contributions are always needed.

Finally, we are always searching for some fresh blood on the paper reviewer front— anyone interested in forwarding the fisheries profession through scientific publication should consider volunteering to review submitted manuscripts to your magazine. The same goes for book reviewers, which are always appreciated and always published with a byline. If you are interested, please contact me at (301) 897-8616, ext. 220; kclarke@fisheries.org. Thank you for helping me to keep *Fisheries* timely and interest-



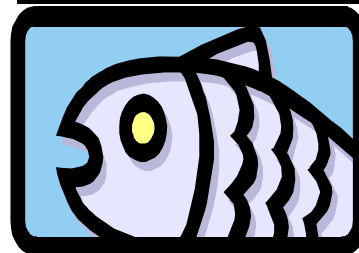
Hello SNE AFS Chapter,

I am sure it's known far and wide, the National AFS Meeting is in Charlotte, NC. As a NC AFS Chapter member, and the AFS 1999 raffle chair, I am seeking support from the SNEC. Ideally, we would like to get all the chapters to contribute a raffle item and I am doing my best to contact each chapter! So, what would be an ideal raffle item for this year's fundraiser... boats and SUV's would be outstanding, but we would settle for and are looking forward to having great prizes such as fishing trips, outdoor vacations, wildlife art, outdoor gear, fish or fishing paraphernalia, etc.

I hope to hear from your chapter soon and that the NC Chapter will be able to return the favor when the National Meeting comes to your area.

I look forward to seeing you in Charlotte!!!!

Sincerely,  
Kim Baker  
Environmental Center MG03A3  
13339 Hagers Ferry Road  
Huntersville, NC 28078  
(704)875-5455  
bkbaker@duke-energy.com



National Fishing  
Week  
June 5 – 13, 1999

## News from the Fisheries World

### Be on the lookout for tagged winter flounder-

We ask all fishermen to be on the lookout for tagged winter flounder. Anyone returning the recapture data will be eligible for our 1999 drawing of one \$500.00 and five \$100.00 prizes. An individual's name will go into our drawing each time he/she reports a tagged fish. This will be the last year we offer rewards for tag returns. However, we encourage fishermen to continue reporting any tagged fish caught after 1999. Since 1994, DMF biologists have tags about 22,400 winter flounder in western Cape Cod Bay and part of Massachusetts Bay. To date we have had 883 tag returns. (Mass. DMF News) @)XXX<

### Riverfront Project Links Teens, Fish Habitat-

A grant from the FishAmerica Foundation is helping to improve fishing in an American Heritage River, as well as to provide employment opportunities for troubled teens. The project on the Connecticut River in Hartford, Conn., which began last summer, will continue this year as teens build Wisconsin log cribs and Christmas tree pyramids to improve habitat to benefit largemouth and smallmouth bass, black crappie and white crappie, and bluegill, pumpkinseed and redbreast sunfish. This particular project was designed to offset potential damage to fish habitat in the Crow Point Pond section of the river as the result of construction of a bridge. (American Sportfishing)@)XXX<

**Maine Lobster Reprieve-** In Maine's Portland Harbor, reported the Portland Press-Herald, enlightened action by the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company will win a reprieve for some 32,000 threatened lobsters. Last year local lobstermen removed juvenile lobsters from their burrows in the harbor before a major dredging project began, and relocated them outside the harbor. The idea was that dredging would be completed before the lobsters would start their spring migration back toward the shore. But with one-third of the job still undone, the Army Corps of Engineers diverted the company's dredge to another task in Virginia. Now, however, Great Lakes has been persuaded to change its schedule again so that the Portland dredging would be

complete before lobsters start crawling back into the harbor. Lobstermen and Maine official applauded. (Atlantic Coastwatch)@)XXX<

### Scientific Analyses Confirm Need for Improved Groundfish Protection-

Fishery scientists have confirmed that five stocks of groundfish in northeastern waters need improved protection from overharvest. The findings indicate that measure intended to recover primary groundfish, such as cod and haddock, should not rely on shifting fishing effort onto other groundfish species. In the report, scientists reviewed the status of yellowtail flounder off Cape Cod, white hake, American plaice and winter flounder stocks on Georges Bank and south to the Mid-Atlantic. These are among the species sought by commercial fisheries regulated under the northeast's groundfish recovery plan. "These findings confirm that strengthened recovery measures are a continuing priority for the groundfishery, not only for Gulf of Maine cod, but for other groundfish species in the region as well" says Patricia Kurkul, Sustainable Fisheries Chief for NOAA Fisheries in the Northeast Region. (NOAA/NMFS) @)XXX<

### Old Lyme Honors Melvin F. Roberts-

A long time environmentalist and resident has been named Citizen of the Year by the Board of Selectmen in recognition for his work in conservation and other town issues over the past four decades. Mervin F. Roberts, a former selectman and founder of the town's Conservation Commission, was presented with a certificate from the town, awarding him for "exemplary service and commitment to the community" at the annual town meeting. "My head isn't swelled. I still took the garbage out today," Roberts, 75, joked in a recent phone interview, but added that he hoped recognition for his service would encourage others to be active in town affairs. Careful to point out that his award "doesn't close the book" on his enthusiasm, Roberts said his energies will continue to be focused on preventing the town from becoming a "megapolis" by "keeping the sewers out." (Ed. Note- Mervin Roberts has been an AFS member since 1985) (New London The Day) @)XXX<

### Flying Biologists to Find Northern Right Whales and Harbor Porpoises-

NOAA fisheries biologists are taking to the air in what has become an annual airborne search of New England waters for marine mammals, particularly the endangered Northern right whale and the harbor porpoise. Two teams of biologists will spend hundreds of hours aloft over the next four months collecting information on the number, location and movements of these animals. The resulting information is used by scientist who monitor the biological status of whales and porpoises, and to evaluate the effectiveness of rules intended to protect marine mammals from the risks posed by vessel traffic and some fishing gear. (NOAA/NMFS) @)XXX<

### Feds Ask For Information on Right Whale's Death-

NOAA Fisheries enforcement agents investigating the recent death of an endangered North Atlantic right whale are asking the public for any information about the circumstances of the whale's death. The whale, nicknamed Staccato, was found dead in Cape Cod Bay on April 20. She was last seen alive by a research team that observed her feeding on April 15. Preliminary results of a necropsy coordinated by NOAA Fisheries revealed broken bones that indicate the whale was struck by a ship, although the actual cause of death has not been determined. Anyone with information about a possible ship/whale collision is urged to call the NOAA Enforcement Hotline at 1-800-853-1964. (NOAA/NMFS) @)XXX<

### New England Groundfish Violation-

On Apr. 22, 1999, the Coast Guard cutter Dependable boarded a fishing vessel 150 miles east of Cape Cod, fishing illegally in Closed Area II. The vessel was escorted to Portland, ME, and its



## Save The Date: A Calendar of Upcoming Events of Diverse Interests

June 5-13, 1999	National Fishing Week	
June 20-25, 1999	Third Conference on Telemetry in Europe	Norwich, UK
June 24-27, 1999	Annual Meeting, American Society of Naturalists/ Society of Systematic Biology Society for the Study of Evolution	Madison, WI
June 24-30, 1999	79th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists	University Park, PA
July 24-30, 1999	Coastal Zone '99	San Diego, CA
August 8-12, 1999	Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America	Spokane, WA
August 24-27	ICES Symposium " <i>Population Dynamics of Calanus in the North Atlantic: Results from the TransAtlantic Study of Calanus finmarchius</i> "	Tromso, Norway
August 29– September 2, 1999 NC	American Fisheries Society 1999 Annual Meeting	Charlotte,
October 18-23, 1999	4th International Symposium on Flatfish Ecology	Morehad City, NC
October 24-27, 1999	Microcomputer Applications in Fish and Wildlife Conference	Stateline, NV
November 30-December 1, 1999	First Biennial Meeting on the Biology of Tautog and Cunner	Mystic, CT

This column is only as good as the information received by The Sounder's editors. Because we publish just twice a year, if you are in the planning stage of a con-

### Meeting Announcement

#### First Biennial Meeting on the Biology of Tautog and Cunner

The First Biennial Meeting on the Biology of Tautog and Cunner is scheduled for November 30 and December 1, 1999. This meeting will be held at the Best Western Sovereign Hotel in Mystic, CT.

Presentations will focus on the population biology, ecology, physiology, aquaculture and fishery issues of tautog and cunner. We invite researchers with interests in any of these general topics to participate. The workshop is jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Department of En-

vironmental Protection, Northeast Fisheries Science Center of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the University of Connecticut Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, a poster, or receiving more information about the workshop, please contact Anne Studholme at (732)872-3001 or [Anne.Studholme@noaa.gov](mailto:Anne.Studholme@noaa.gov) to be put on the mailing list. Further details are posted at [www.eeb.ucon.edu/tautog/announcement.html](http://www.eeb.ucon.edu/tautog/announcement.html).

**The SOUNDER** is the biannual publication of the Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Material for the next issue of the SOUNDER may be submitted to Co-editors Timothy Sheehan and Dave Basler by mail, e-mail, fax, Pony Express or telepathic thoughts (return receipt requested!) at the following locations:

#### Timothy Sheehan

[tsheehan@whsun1.wh.who.edu](mailto:tsheehan@whsun1.wh.who.edu)  
NMFS/NEFSC  
166 Water Street  
Woods Hole, MA 02543  
Phone (508)495-2215

#### Dave Basler

[daveb89@aol.com](mailto:daveb89@aol.com)  
MassWILDLIFE  
341 East Street  
Belchertown, MA 01007  
Phone (413)323-7632  
FAX (413)323-9623

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS SIX WEEKS BEFORE OUR NEXT MEET-**

### You're Invited!

#### 1999 American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

**29 August – 2 September**  
At the Adam's Mark Hotel in  
**Charlotte, North Carolina**  
*Hosted by the AFS North and South  
Carolina Chapters*

- more than 20 symposia and hundreds of paper presentations
- A great plenary session
- Social events to encourage networking and fun
- A Trade Show featuring cutting-edge products and services
- AFS Section and Society business meetings
- Inexpensive hotel rates
- Easy and affordable travel access to the meeting

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE:  
[www.fisheries.org/annual99/index](http://www.fisheries.org/annual99/index)

## Welcome New Members!

The following is a list of our newest members from 1/98 to 3/99, as provided by the American Fisheries Society. Welcome Aboard!

Nancy Balcom, Ray Bartlett, Chuck Bell, Todd Bobowick, Karen Bolles, Jon Borowski, Todd Boutilier, Robert Brokaw, Stephen Brown, William Burt, Steven Cadrin, Dennis Callahan, Blake Carlson, Jung-Hee Cho, Paul E. Clark, J. Stanley Cobb, Heather Crawford, Tane Crossley, Daniel Davis, Allison DeLong, Christopher DeMarco, Brian Doerr, Sheally Ellen, Randy Elvid, Dennis Fenn, Kelly Finn, Quentin Fong, Donald Fontes, Sal Frasca, Heather Fried, Lance Garrison, Bill Gerrish, Chris Glass, Heidi E. Golden, Melissa Grader, Erika Henyey, Jerome Hermsen, Jeffrey Hill, Russell Holliday, Porter Hogland, Libby Hopkings, E. Martin Jaffee, Paul H. Jones, Seth Jones, Rebecca Jordan, Tania Lewandowski, Christine Lipsky, Sarah Lupis, Jonathan Maletta, Ken McIntyre, Eileen McKinstry, Rebeka Merson, Steven Michaud, Robert Michelson, Cheryl Milliken, David Molner, Paul Mostowe, Matthew Mrocza, Susan Murphy, Steve Pace, Karen Pelto, Stephanie Pawlowicz, Judith Pederson, Allen Peterson, Seth Pianka, Pat Ploude, John Prenosil, Barbara Pollard Rountree, Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Paul Rago, Joseph Ravita, Cynthia Robinson, Cori Rose, Scott Roskelley, Ronald Salz, Kerry Sanna, Kathryn Scanlon, Eric Schulz, Gary Shepherd, Laura Skrobe, Albin Sonski, Aaron Stepbr, Sheila Stiles, Eric Stone, Kelly Streich, Kyle Sullivan, Timothy Sullivan, Alison Thibodeau, Joanna Tober, Oliver Valu, Kathleen Van Cleef, Peg Van Patten, William Walton, Michael Wilcox, Laura Wildman, John Witzig, Susan Wright, Greg Writenhour, Holly Yachmetz

### News from the Fisheries World

#### Alien Aquatic Species Control.

On Apr. 30, 1999, the intergovernmental U.S. Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, meeting in Duluth, MN, agreed to a resolution, committing to eliminate, as soon as possible, ship ballast water as a significant pathway for the introduction of invasive species into U.S. waters. To achieve this objective, collaborative efforts with maritime interests will seek a workable, safe, and environmentally sound solution. [MN Sea Grant press release]

#### Atlantic HMS Management.

On Apr. 26, 1999, NMFS announced its first comprehensive regulations to rebuild populations of Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) billfish, shark, swordfish, and tuna. Measures include temporarily closing areas to reduce bycatch, prohibiting pelagic driftnets for catching tuna, and limiting access to restrict the number of fishermen. For billfish, sport anglers will abide by minimum size restrictions rather than bag limits. Additional regulations to restrict the use of spotter aircraft in the commercial bluefin tuna fishery will be issued at a later date. New restrictions

will limit the harvest of yellowfin tuna. An annual June closure of federal waters off New Jersey will reduce the number of under-size bluefin tuna caught. A larger closed area to protect juvenile swordfish is scheduled to be announced by Sept. 1, 1999. A voluntary observer program will collect data from the charter industry. [NOAA press release, Assoc. Press]

**Rubber Salmon.** On Apr. 21, 1999, Dept. of Energy engineers unveiled a synthetic, rubber salmon replica crammed with sensors that will be sent through the turbines at McNary Dam in May 1999 to better measure how salmon are affected by passage through hydroelectric facilities. This is part of a 5-year, \$8 million program to make hydropower dams more fish-friendly. [Assoc. Press]

**ME Salmon Proposal-** On Apr. 14, 1999, the ME Dept. of Marine Resources is scheduled to hold a public hearing in Mount Desert on a proposal, including a 10-year lease, by Atlantic Salmon of Maine LLC of Fairfield, to rear 500,000 Atlantic salmon in 16 pens on a 15-acre tract off Bartlett Island. [Bangor

#### Daily News]

**River-Crowding Bill.** In late April 1999, Senate Bill 445 cleared the MT legislature and was presented to Governor Marc Racicot for signature. This measure attempts to ease overcrowding of trout fishermen in MT's Beaverhead and Big Hole Rivers by developing long-term recreational plans for the rivers. An amendment specifies that any reductions in use must come first

from commercial or non-resident users before reductions are imposed on MT residents. [Assoc. Press]

**Water Skiing a Threat to Salmon?** On Apr. 27, 1999, Mountlake Terrace, WA, officials canceled permission for the International Water Ski Organization's

fourth annual competition on Lake Ballinger scheduled for June 1999, fearing internal combustion engines from the boats could degrade water quality and harm chinook salmon. Others fear that sediment suspended by

### The Southern New England Chapter Board of Directors 1998/1999

#### President

John Kocik

#### President-Elect

Brian Murphy

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Russell Brown

#### Past President

Chris Powell

#### Education

Marcy Anderson

#### Environmental Affairs

Ruth Haas-Castro

Penny Howell

#### Professionalism

Rick Jacobsen

#### Program Development

Lesa Meng

#### Newsletter

Tim Sheehan

Dave Basler

#### Student Affairs

Greg Whritenour

#### Publicity

Don Danila

#### CT Fisheries Advisory Council

Linda Bireley

#### At Large Members:

Dennis Erken, Ron Essig, Ben Lechter, Allan Libby, Martha Mather, Rob Neumann, Jack Pearce, Lauren Ramseyer, Mike



**Fish Biology / Fish Culture - Assistant Professor - Colorado State University**

The Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology at Colorado State University announces the following open position:

**Position:** Tenure-track 9-month appointment for Assistant Professor in fish biology/fish culture. Position begins January 2000.

**Qualifications:** Earned Ph.D. in fish biology or closely related field, with specialty in fish conservation genetics, fish pathology, or fish physiology. Demonstrated knowledge or experience in fish culture Postdoctoral or agency experience, demonstrated research productivity, and demonstrated teaching experience employing modern technology are highly desirable.

**Duties:** Teach undergraduate courses in fish culture, ichthyology or fishery biology methods, and a course in area of expertise that serves students across the university. Advise undergraduate Fishery Biology majors develop a funded research program with graduate students.

**Application:** Send curriculum vitae, official transcripts, representative publications, three letters of recommendation (one from Ph.D. adviser), and statement of interest that includes your philosophy for combining teaching and research at a Land-Grant university to Dr. Kurt Fausch, Chair of Fish Biology/Fish Culture Search Committee, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523. Faxed applications are not acceptable.

**Deadline:** Review of applications will begin 1 August 1999. Selection will continue until position is filled.

See our website (<http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/FWB/>) for more information.

Colorado State University is an AA/EEO employer and educational institution.

Dr. Kurt D. Fausch  
Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology  
and Graduate Degree Program in Ecology  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO 80523

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B  
S

"It is difficult to talk to people who are not particularly interested in the value of a river."  
- Zane Grey

"I marvel how the fishes live in the sea."  
- William Shakespeare

"Man masters nature not by force, but by understanding"  
- Jacob Bronowski

"A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye, looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature."  
- Henry David Thoreau

"Someone just back of you while you are fishing is as bad as someone looking over your shoulder while you are write a letter to your girl."  
-Ernest Hemingway

“!”



## Southern New England Chapter By-Law Changes

At the January 1999 Business meeting, the Southern New England Chapter voted to revise its bylaws to allow for an affiliate membership category and to make other minor updates. These bylaw changes were reviewed and approved at the March 1999 Governing Board meeting and are currently in effect.

The affiliate membership category allows individuals who are not members of the American Fisheries Society to join the Southern New Eng-

land Chapter as affiliate members. Affiliate members receive all of the benefits of the chapter (reduced meeting registrations, newsletters, electronic communications), except where specifically limited by American Fisheries Society bylaws. Among these limitations, affiliate members may not vote in chapter elections and referenda, stand for election or serve as an elected officer of the chapter, or chair chapter committees. However, we expect that affiliate

members will be represented by one or more designated seats on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is currently establishing policies concerning affiliate memberships and expects to offer these memberships beginning in the Fall for calendar year 2000.

Copies of the reviewed bylaws may be obtained from Russell Brown, Secretary/

Treasurer of the Southern New England Chapter.

— Russell Brown

### Chapter Awards Four Student Membership Grants

The Southern New England Chapter has awarded four student membership grants for the 1999 calendar year. Student Membership Grants are awarded on a first come, first served basis to up to 10 students enrolled in a fisheries-related program in the Southern New England area. Grant recipients receive a one-year membership to the American Fisheries Society and the Southern New England Chapter. Experience from our initial set of grant recipients indicates that greater than 70% of grant recipients renew their memberships the following year. More information is available on the web at: [www.wh.who.edu/snecafs/docs/membawrd.htm](http://www.wh.who.edu/snecafs/docs/membawrd.htm)

Congratulations to the following grant recipients:

Sharon Fleming

Salem State College

Jennifer Martin

University of Connecticut

Mark Miller

## Chapter Diversifies Its Investments

The Southern New England Chapter is in sound financial condition due to the success of last summer's American Fisheries Society meeting and conservative fiscal policies over the past few years. Accumulated funds were being held in the chapter's non-interest bearing checking account. The Board of Directors recommended investment of chapter funds to produce increased dividends to be used for future chapter activities.

The specific recommendation from the Board of Directors was to invest \$7,000.00 of chapter funds in a money-market fund backed by U.S. Government Securities. Based on this recommendation, the Executive Committee directed the Secretary/Treasurer to invest \$7,000.00 of chapter funds in the Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund. Funds were invested on December 29, 1998 and have earned \$82.80 in dividends through March 31, 1999.

It is expected that this investment will yield \$300 to \$350 annually (approximately 10% of the annual chapter budget) for use in chapter activities.

## Education Committee Report

Thank you to the individuals who responded to the continuing education survey in the last issue of Sounder. If anyone still has their survey and would like to fill it out, please send it in. We had a low number of responses, and for us to determine the future of continuing education courses in the SNEC, it is important to

have your input.

For individuals who are interested in upcoming continuing education courses, the July issue of Fisheries magazine should contain course listings of continuing education courses across the country. Information concerning upcoming courses can be found on the AFS homepage.

In addition, the AFS is co-sponsoring an educational workshop with the US Geological Survey and National Biological Information Infrastructure at the 1999 Annual Meeting in Charlotte, NC. The workshop will be dealing with metadata records. More information on the workshop be found on the AFS homepage.

## CHAPTER NEWS



## Instructions For Search

point your hands like a compass to down  
and dive off the edge of madagascar  
into the tea-warm indian ocean

as the fathoms widen before you  
in a blue-green peacock's tail  
elongate yourself like an eel  
round and flat at the same time  
then move your arms in great arcs  
and descend along the path of broken sunlight

swim carefully through the hypnotizing  
seaweed  
over the ragged battlements of tulip-colored  
corals  
until at last you pass  
the ironwork of the continent  
and you are below the world

here where the sun is repulsed  
by the fist of pressure  
blind fish like beggars  
wait for alms  
and the sea is a buddha  
silent and dark

no progression  
no regression  
fullness flatness of tides  
the eye in the throat beats the time  
when the pupil is ready  
the teacher arrives  
wait  
for the coelacanth  
fish of rounded gills and lobed fins  
400 million years old  
last inhabitant of the devonian sea

if he approaches  
unseen  
unheard  
ask him  
how did you survive?

*By Francine M. Storey*  
*Copyright Pau 1465197*  
*Winner Dylan Thomas Poetry Award*  
*At The New School For Social Research*

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## The SOUNDER

Timothy Sheehan  
NMFS/ NEFSC  
166 Water Street  
Woods Hole, MA 02543

*The Newsletter of*  
*the Southern New England Chapter*

**IMPORTANT: BALLOT ENCLOSED  
MEETING INFORMATION, TOO**

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